information. More than 8.4 crore job cards and 2.4 crore muster rolls have been up loaded on the web site.

(ii) Wage disbursement to NREGA workers through Banks/Post Office accounts has been made mandatory to ensure proper disbursement of wages to NREGA workers. 8.13 crore bank/post office accounts have been opened so far.

(iii) Orders dated 7.9.2009 have been issued directing all State Governments for setting up of the office of Ombudsman at district level for redressal of grievances in a time bound manner.

(iv) The Ministry has accorded utmost importance to the organization of Social Audits by the Gram Panchayats and issued instructions to the States to make necessary arrangements for the purpose. Modifications have been made in para 13 of Schedule-I of the Act to provide for procedures on conducting social audits. The Ministry has issued instructions to the State Governments for enforcement of the new social audit provisions under NREGA.

(v) Independent Monitoring by eminent citizens has been approved.

(vi) District level Vigilance and Monitoring Committees have been set up for monitoring of rural development programmes including NREGA.

Failure of Central agencies in rural road projects

1350. SHRI NARESH GUJRAL:
SHRI N.K. SINGH:

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work relating to development of rural roads in various States particularly in Bihar has been entrusted to Central Agencies such as CPWD, IRCON and NHPC;

(b) if so, whether the Central agencies have completely failed to complete the construction of rural roads in time;

(c) if so, whether the State Governments particularly Bihar has now decided to take back the task from the Central agencies and to complete it with their own efforts; and

(d) if so, the manner in which the Central Government now intends to help the State Governments to complete the task?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) 5 Central Agencies namely, Central Public Works Department (CPWD), M/S IRCON International Limited, M/s National Building Construction Corporation Limited (NBCC), M/s National Hydroelectric Power Corporation (NHPC) and M/s National Project Construction Corporation Limited (NPCC) have been engaged for the implementation of PMGSY in Bihar.

(b) Project proposals for 18905.75 km. road length have been cleared for implementation under PMGSY through 5 Central Agencies in Bihar. 5247.79 km. road length have been completed by these agencies upto 31.10.2009.

(c) Rural Road projects under PMGSY are also being implemented by the State Government through their own agencies in Bihar.

(d) Project proposals for 18696.17 km. road length have been cleared by the Ministry of Rural Development for implementation through the agencies of the State Government under PMGSY in Bihar.

Accountability for implementation of NREGA schemes

1351. SHRI JESUDASU SEELAM: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether State Governments have urged the Centre to extend National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA) limit to 200 days as drought relief measure;

(b) if so, whether Union Government is considering to change this scheme as Rural Employment Guarantee Act;

(c) if so, whether some of States have pointed out that this act must lay down clearly authorities who are accountable;

(d) if so, whether in the past there has been number of objections raised in regard to misuse of scheme; and

(e) if so, whether any final decision has been taken for laying down norms and authorities who will be accountable in implementing scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI PRADEEP JAIN): (a) The Ministry received proposals from Chief Minister of Rajasthan and Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for enhancement of the number of days of guaranteed wage employment under NREGA from 100 to 200 days in drought affected areas.

(b) Government of India has decided to insert the words "Mahatama Gandhi" before National Rural Employment Guarantee Act to be renamed as "The Mahatama Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act, 2005".

(c) to (e) Objections received in the Ministry are referred to the concerned State Government for taking appropriate action in accordance with the provisions of the Act. For investigation into matters of serious nature, National Level Monitors (NLNs) are deputed by the Ministry to the concerned district/State for investigation and their reports are shared with the concerned State Government for taking corrective measures. The authorities which are accountable for implementation of NREG Act have been clearly stipulated in the Act.